

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

T-03 OMB-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 GAC-01 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /147 W  
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R 191654 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3946

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, GW, GE, UR

SUBJ: LABOR-- MORE ON NEW DGB- FDGB SUMMIT MEETING

REF: BONN 3834

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON MARCH 15 AFTER A TWO DAYS TALK IN DUESSELDORF, DGB PRESIDENT VETTER AND FDGB PRESIDENT WARNKE URGED RATIFICATION OF THE BASIC TREATY BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE GDR AND ANNOUNCED INTENSIFIED LABOR EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE FRG AND GD. THE LATTER WILL INCLUDE AFFILIATED INDUSTRIAL UNIONS, YOUTH COMMITTEES, AND TRADE UNION JOURNALISTS. VETTER AND WARNKE, HOWEVER, DISAGREED ON THE FDGB PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT CALLING A EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFERENCE WHICH VETTER VIEWED AS NOT YET OPPORTUNE. VETTER ALSO POINTEDLY VISITED CHANCELLOR BRANDT THE SAME DAY TO BRIEF HIM ON THESE TALKS. WARNKE'S VISIT APPARENTLY WAS CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH SOVIET AUCCTU PRESIDENT SHELEPIN DURING HIS RECENT MARCH 8-9 VISIT TO MOSCOW. END SUMMARY.

2. THE DGB- FDGB ISSUED THE FOLLOWING JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON MARCH 15: " A MEETING BETWEEN DELEGATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS OF THE FDGB AND THE DGB TOOK PLACE IN DUESSELDORF ON MARCH 14-15. THE DELEGATION OF THE FDGB EXECUTIVE BOARD HEADED BY ITS PRESIDENT HERBERT WERNKE INCLUDED : VICE PRESIDENT WOLFGANG BEYREUTHER AND THE MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDUM AND S SECRETARIES WERNER HEILEMANN AND HEINZ NEUKRANTZ. THE DGB DELEGATION HEADED BY PRESIDENT HEINZ OSKAR VETTER INCLUDED: VICE- PRESIDENT MARIA WEBER, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS GEORG NEEMANN AND GERHARD SCHMIDT AND DR. BERND OTTO, SECRETARY IN THE DGB HEADQUARTERS.

" SUBJECT OF THE TALKS WERE QUESTIONS OF TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES AND THE REPRESENTATION OF LABOR INTERESTS IN DIFFERENT SOCIAL STRUCTURES. THE CONVERSATIONS TOOK PLACE IN AN OPEN-MINDED AND OBJECTIVE ATMOSPHERE. BOTH SIDES STRESSED THE USEFULNESS OF THEIR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND VIEWS.

" THE DELEGATIONS AGREED TO THE NEED FOR AN EARLY RATIFICATION  
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OF THE TREATY ON THE BASES OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GDR AND

THE FRG SINCE IT SERVES THE SAFEGUARDING OF PEACE, DETENTE IN EUROPE AS WELL AS THE EASING OF HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS. BOTH SIDES AGREED TO TAKE FURTHER STEPS TOWARD A NORMALIZATION THE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FDGB AND THE DGB INCLUDING THE OPENING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE AFFILIATED UNIONS OF THE FDGB AND DGB, THE MEETING BETWEEN THE YOUTH COMMITTEES OF BOTH ORGANIZATIONS AND THE EXCHANGE OF TRADE UNION INFORMATION.

" REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH FEDERATIONS WILL WORK OUT CONCRETE PROPOSALS ON THESE ISSUES IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE CONTACT BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS WILL CONTINUE."

3. COMMENT: THE DGB CONTINUES TO RECEIVE HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION FROM THE SOVIETS AND GDR WITH THIS WARNKE TRIP CLOSELY FOLLOWED NEXT DAY BY THE VISIT OF SOVIET POLITBUREAU MEMBER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SOVIET KOMSOMOL YEGVENITY TYAZHELNIKOV TO THE DGB TO TALK WITH THE HEAD OF THE DGB YOUTH DEPARTMENT FRANZ WOSCHECH ABOUT " QUESTIONS OF YOUTH POLICY OF MUTUAL INTEREST." REFLECTING THE LEVEL OF THESE CONTACTS, VETTER POINTEDLY VISITED CHANCELLOR BRANDT THE SAME DAY TO INFORM HIM ABOUT THE FDGB/ DGB TALKS.

APPARENTLY WARNKE' S TRIP AND LINE WAS ALSO CAREFULLY COORDINATED WITH SOVIET AUCCTU SHELEPIN DURING HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW WITH FDGB VICE PRESIDENT BEYREUTHER MARCH 8-9. ACCORDING TO EAST GERMAN FDGB DAILY TRIBUNE, AT THIS MEETING " BOTH SIDES EXCHANGED INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THEIR ORGANIZATIONS.. AND DISCUSSED IN DETAIL CURRENT PROBLEMS OF THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION MOVEMENT." THEY " FOUND THAT RECENTLY INCREASINGLY FAVORABLE CONDITIONS HAD BEEN CREATED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNIONS WITH DIFFERENT ORIENTATIONS IN THE INTEREST OF THE WORKING CLASS AND ALL WORKERS OF THE CONTINENT. THE AUCCTU AND THE FDGB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE INTENTION OF THE ILO TO CONVENE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECOND EUROPEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE ILO IN JANUARY 1974, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH THERE WILL TAKE PLACE A MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE TRADE UNION FEDERATIONS IN THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES." HILLENBRAND

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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